

Favorite books about California and the Bay Area

Recommendations from Oakland Public Librarians (June 2019)

Titles for Adults

America is not the heart / Elaine Castillo.

Ask the dust / John Fante ; preface by Charles Bukowski.

BART : the dramatic history of the Bay Area Rapid Transit system / Michael C. Healy; foreword by John King.

Better to reign in hell : inside the Raiders fan empire / Jim Miller and Kelly Mayhew.

Bullies : a friendship / Alex Abramovich.

California : a history / Kevin Starr.

Carter beats the Devil : a novel / Glen David Gold.

Cool gray city of love : 49 views of San Francisco / Gary Kamiya.

Dreaming on the edge : poets & artists in the history of the book in California / Alastair M. Johnston.

East Bay Hills : a brief history / Amelia Sue Marshall.

Eve's Hollywood / Eve Babitz ; introduction by Holly Brubach.

Fat city / Leonard Gardner.

Flame and fortune in the American West : urban development, environmental change, and the great Oakland Hills fire / Gregory L. Simon.

Hell's Angels : a strange and terrible saga / Hunter S. Thompson.

Kindred / Octavia E. Butler.

Living for the city : migration, education, and the rise of the Black Panther Party in Oakland, California / Donna Jean Murch.

Loving in the war years : lo que nunca paso por sus labios / Cherrie Moraga.

Lucky boy / Shanthi Sekaran.

Over easy / Mimi Pond.

Pictures of a gone city : tech and the dark side of prosperity in the San Francisco Bay Area / Richard Walker.

Sign my name to freedom : a memoir of a pioneering life / Betty Reid Soskin ; edited by J. Douglas Allen-Taylor.

Telegraph Avenue : a novel / Michael Chabon.

The Browns of California : the family dynasty that transformed a state and shaped a nation / Miriam Pawel.

The land of little rain / by Mary Austin.

The mistress of spices / by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni.

The picture man : from the collection of Bay Area photographer E.F. Joseph, 1927-1979 / Careth Reid & Ruth Beckford.

The subterraneans / Jack Kerouac.

The valley of the moon / Jack London ; foreword by Kevin Starr.

There there : a novel / Tommy Orange.

Valencia / Michelle Tea.

Way past cool / by Jess Mowry.

When they call you a terrorist : a Black Lives Matter memoir / Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele.

Where I was from / Joan Didion.

Titles for Children

A jar of dreams / Yoshiko Uchida.

Al Capone does my shirts / Gennifer Choldenko.

Donner dinner party / Nathan Hale.

Dreamers / Yuyi Morales.

Esperanza rising / Pam Muñoz Ryan.

Fred Korematsu speaks up / by Laura Atkins and Stan Yogi ; illustrations by Yutaka Houlette.

Hooray! A piñata! / by Elisa Kleven.

I am Sausal Creek = Soy el Arroyo Sausal / story/cuento Melissa Reyes ; illustrations/ilustraciones Robert Trujillo ; translation/traducción Cinthya Muñoz.

Lion Singer / Sylvia Ross.

Mare's war / Tanita S. Davis.

One crazy summer / by Rita Williams-Garcia.

Pride : the story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag / written by Rob Sanders ; illustrated by Steven Salerno.

San Francisco ABC : a Larry gets lost book / written and illustrated by John Skewes.

Separate is never equal : Sylvia Mendez & her family's fight for desegregation / Duncan Tonatuih.

Side by side : the story of Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez = Lado a lado : la historia de Dolores Huerta y César Chávez / by Monica Brown ; illustrated by Joe Cepeda ; translated by Carolina Valencia.

Smile / Raina Telgemeier.

The City by the Bay : a magical journey around San Francisco / written by Tricia Brown and the Junior League of San Francisco ; illustrated by Elisa Kleven.

The Port Chicago 50 : disaster, mutiny, and the fight for civil rights / Steve Sheinkin.

Two bear cubs : a Miwok legend from California's Yosemite Valley / retold by Robert D. San Souci; illustrated by Daniel San Souci.

Unusual chickens for the exceptional poultry farmer / by Kelly Jones ; Illustrated by Katie Kath.
Weedflower / Cynthia Kadohata.

Titles for Teens

American born Chinese / Gene Luen Yang ; color by Lark Pien.

Anger is a gift / Mark Oshiro.

Internment / Samira Ahmed.

Little brother / Cory Doctorow.

The 57 bus : a true story of two teenagers and the crime that changed their lives / Dashka Slater.

You know me well / Nina LaCour and David Levithan.

Youth in revolt : the journals of Nick Twisp / C.D. Payne.